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# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT 1. Navigation in the Gulf of Finland  
2. Port Facilities and Soviet Vessels at Leningrad

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

The following reports on navigation in the Gulf of Finland and ship sightings and port facilities at Leningrad

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1. Eight pages of information, two sketches of the Leningrad and Kotlin Island areas, and a sketch of what is purported to be the forward turret appearance of a TALLINN-class destroyer, reportedly on a training cruise. This report mentions sighting of a number of submarines, a CHAPAYEV-class cruiser, the OKTYABRSKAYA REVOLYUTSIYA, two cruisers with a displacement of 7,000-8,000 tons, two Z-class submarines, and some merchant vessels.

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This report includes a brief note on treatment ashore and general living conditions in Leningrad.

2. One page of information on a submarine sighted near Seyskari Island, with a sketch of the submarine, and the assertion that the OKTYABRSKAYA REVOLYUTSIYA was equipped with radar. These two reports cover the same period of observation.

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Subject: USSR - Reports on the ports of Leningrad,

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Soviet motor launches which were of solid construction, completely equipped with radar, radio-telephone, searchlights, and probably with light weapons which, however, were not observed.

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These motor launches were of the same shape as that shown on the enclosed sketch [redacted]

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[redacted] did not observe any searchlight on the low and sandy shore, nor [redacted] see any military preparations. [redacted]

In the Gulf of Finland,

[redacted] one cruiser of the "CHAPAEV" [redacted] class [redacted] was heavily armed and abundantly equipped with radar apparatus and radio transmitters specially arranged on the main mast, [redacted]

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[redacted] and three destroyers, probably of the "SKORY" class [redacted]

[redacted] communicating with one another without pause by means of luminous signals.

At the bearing of the Seskar Island (latitude  $60^{\circ}05' N$ , longitude  $28^{\circ}22'30'' E$ .), [redacted] several submarines, either single units or in groups up to three, carrying on exercises which consisted of alternate submersions of the units; [redacted] these craft maintained an underwater speed of about 15-16 knots. These units maintained their triangular formation even when carrying out the submerging exercises.

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The types observed varied, but [redacted] the predominant ones were those of the "Z" class and others as shown in the sketch [redacted]

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[redacted] the units observed served especially for the exercises and the training of the personnel, and as ~~most of these~~ most of these were kept near the Seskar Island it was believed that the island was their base and that it also was the location of a school for submarine crews. 25X1

[redacted] most of the exercises of the Soviet Navy are carried on north of the 60° parallel [redacted]

[redacted] in the Gulf of Finland, which is virtually at the complete mercy of the Soviet Navy.

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[redacted] At anchor [redacted] were two  
cruisers, of about 7,000-8,000-ton displacement, which [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] were not of an antiquated type. At the same time  
[redacted] in the bay north of Kronstadt several warships of various types  
were carrying on varied exercises, but without the use of artillery.

[redacted] 25X1  
Immediately [redacted] southeast of the still-damaged Fort Kronslot, which faces  
the port of Kronstadt, two light destroyers were anchored, which [redacted]  
were former German ships [redacted]

[redacted] of the [redacted] "Z" class,  
[redacted] 25X1

[redacted]  
Between Kronstadt and the port of Leningrad the ships sailed through the  
canal flanked by breakwaters which are kept in perfect condition. 25X1

The pier [redacted] is used for the export of wood, which  
[redacted] was deposited in the squares in enormous piles. The pier lacks any  
fixed mechanical equipment; instead it has a great number of mobile pieces of  
equipment, with the predominant ones being fork lifts, mostly of [redacted] 25X1  
construction and a few of Soviet manufacture, which were capable of lifting and  
transporting rapidly entire piles of boards [redacted]

The port basin corresponds to that shown on [redacted] map [redacted]

On this same basin, [redacted] the following information: 25X1

- Zheleznaya Damba - pier used for bunkering services;
- Razdyelnaya " - " " " ore shipments;
- O.Gladka - " " " wood shipments.

In the northwest zone of the Barochnyy Basseyn, there <sup>is</sup> [redacted] a workshop for  
the equipping of ships. Docked at the pier were a steel, floating dock, which was

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being used by a merchant ship of about 5-6 ton capacity, and an icebreaker that was in the process of being equipped.

[redacted] the port was very active. Most of the ships that were loading wood there [redacted]

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[redacted] and a few were flying a dark flag.

[redacted] the Soviets have compiled nautical charts, [redacted] reproductions of the entire Baltic [redacted]

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The temperature was good [redacted] but several days later there was a cold spell which caused the first ice to form. During that time the atmospheric conditions worsened, and the first heavy snowfall occurred, together with a dense fog.

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The sudden change in weather conditions surprised the Soviet authorities who did not have any efficient icebreaker [redacted]

[redacted] until the arrival of an icebreaker, which, in all probability, came from 25X1 the north. This was a very [redacted] modern and powerful vessel, equipped with four propellers and bearing the name of a famous captain who reportedly died on board his icebreaker. The unit had an approximate <sup>tonnage</sup> [redacted] of not less than 4,000 - 5,000, <sup>bridge</sup> [redacted] near the bow, and three <sup>decks</sup> [redacted] with walks. Apparently, it had 25X1 been built recently [redacted] The USSR has four or five other similar vessels. 25X1

[redacted] the Leningrad lightship had been removed, perhaps to avoid having it crushed <sup>by</sup> [redacted] the ice; also removed were the large mooring <sup>buoy</sup> [redacted] and many other luminous 25X1 buoys which normally indicate the course to follow in entering or leaving the waters of the port. However, there remained the luminous [redacted] buoys anchored in the waters of the Gulf of Finland, which were still free of ice.

[redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] a naval vessel  
identified [redacted] as a super destroyer of the "TALLIN" class.

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[redacted] noted the presence on board of persons wearing yellow overalls, who were grouped near the turret. Although the sailors of the Navy often wear overalls of that kind, [redacted]

[redacted] they were mainly worn by workmen and civilian technicians. [redacted]

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[redacted] From the pearl-gray color of the hull,

[redacted] the unit was of recent construction and really undergoing

■ tests.

[redacted] the ship had a square stern and seemed

to be completely equipped, having a great amount of radar and radio transmission equipment, and having complete fittings, including the guns that were arranged on both sides of the vessel. [redacted] this ship was being transferred from one navy yard to another. or [redacted] was undergoing some tests.

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[redacted] the

strict<sup>e</sup> discipline reigns aboard the Soviet ■ naval vessels which is rigorously respected by the crews who seem animated by a spirited sense of obedience.

During their off-duty hours, both on the street and at social meeting places, there seems to exist between the military of every ■ rank a sense of cordial comradeship, which does not prejudice, however, the form of military discipline that is respected everywhere. [redacted] the

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military personnel of the Navy are subjected to a continuous and intense training, with frequent and prolonged sea journeys, and [redacted] their training is carried out without sparing means or energy.

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[REDACTED]

the beauty of the city of Leningrad, which had 5 million inhabitants and which, in spite of the damages suffered during the war, appeared well equipped, both from the urban and tourist viewpoints.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

the extremely high prices charged at the fashionable places, [REDACTED] ranged from 30 to 50 rubles; however, at the theaters, which were usually very crowded, whenever it was necessary to resort to the black market to get a ticket the cost was much higher. Also, for articles of clothing the prices are extremely high and unattainable for the foreigner who must exchange his own money at the official rate of exchange. For the local populace the situation is somewhat different and, in general, the earning power of a family is fairly good because of the fact that normally no one in the family is idle and everyone is working. The phenomenon of unemployment does not exist.

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OSTROY  
KOTLIN

KRONSTLOT

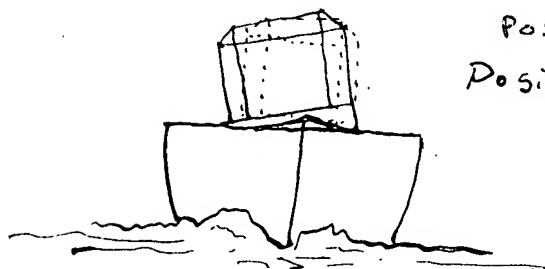
Kronshlot

Long Lines in construction  
ICEBREAKERS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

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POSITION OF THE BOW TURRET  
Posizione della torretta prodiera

Super c.T. Tipo "Tallin"

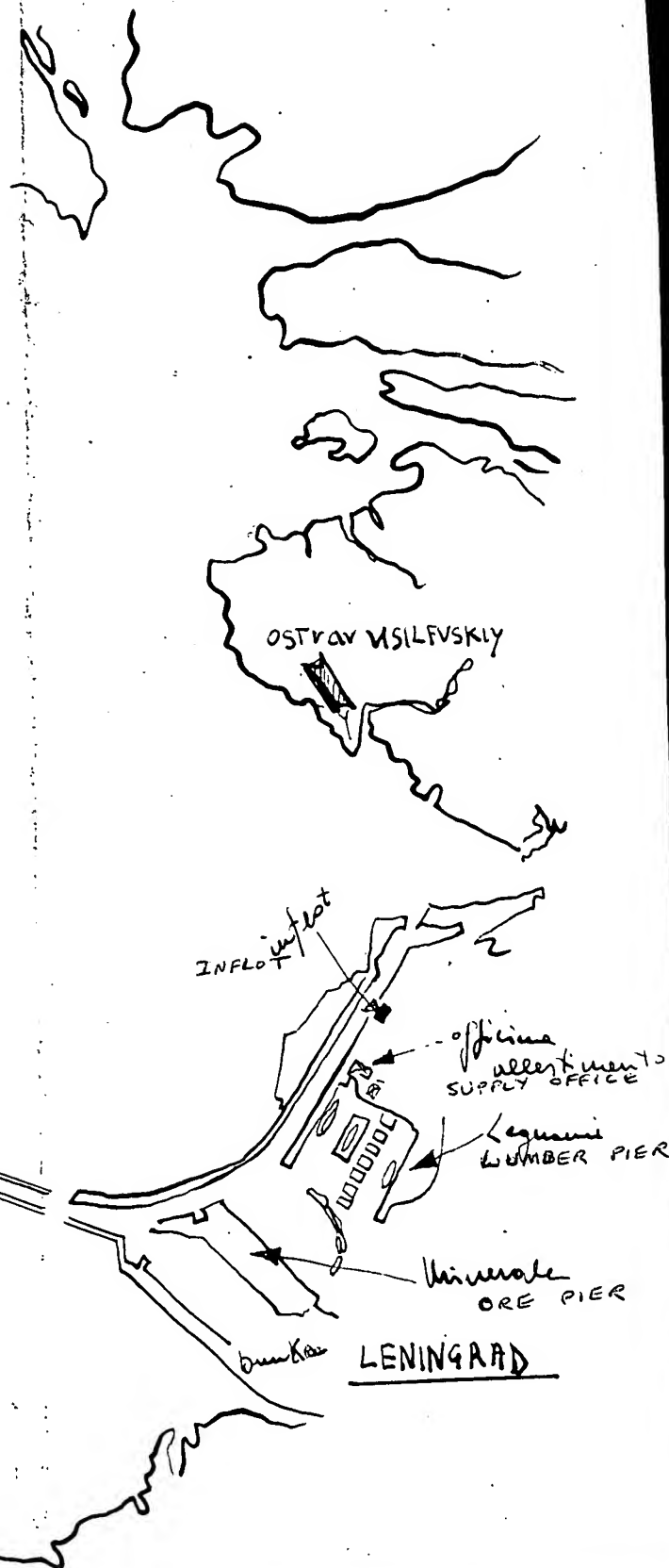
TALLIN-CLASS DESTROYER

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NEVSKAYA  
YA GUBA



LENINGRAD:

observed a

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radar antenna on a tower located to the right of the port entrance.

Attached is a sketch of a type of submarine

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near Seskar island, viewed from

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above and in profile (enc. 4). The unit described, (about 70-80 meters in length) was armed with two guns, and on the conning tower, in addition to the steering wheel, there were other devices which were indistinct.

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the battleship "OCTIABRSKAIA REVOLUTIA" was equipped with radar

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